



# MIAMIBEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSION **RECEIVED**

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**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

*Jorge M. Gonzalez*  
Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: March 16, 2011

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation News and Upcoming Events

This Letter to Commission is provided to update you on events at our Parks and Recreation facilities, including upcoming projects.

**First Annual Primer Soccer Tournament** – On February 18, 2011, Parks and Recreation's after school members from North Shore Park Youth Center, Flamingo and Muss participated in the first annual Primer B (2nd & 3rd graders) Winter Soccer Tournament at the Normandy Isle Park & Pool.

**Traveling Soccer Team** – On February 21, 2011, the City of Miami Beach Boys U15 Traveling Soccer team claimed the championship trophy at the Weston Cup Tournament at Weston Regional Park with a 1-0 victory over Homestead Soccer Club! Also, on February 12<sup>th</sup>, the Miami Beach Boys U11 Traveling Soccer team won the championship trophy at the Cup Finals of the Dade Youth Soccer League with a 1 – 0 victory over the Homestead Soccer Club. Congratulations to a team of champs!

**Cupid's Carnival** – On February 11, 2011, over 1,000 people joined in the Valentine's Day festivities at the Flamingo Park "Cupid's Carnival". The event included FREE fun carnival rides, DJ entertainment and an arts & crafts booth. Tickets were sold for carnival games, face painting, popcorn stand and more.

**Sweetheart's Dance** – On February 11, 2011, the North Shore Park and Youth Center hosted their Annual Sweetheart's Dance. Juniors and Teens were invited to get struck by Cupid's arrow and all participants were encouraged to wear red and white to show the spirit of cupid's magic.

**Black History Night** – On February 4, 2011, the North Shore Park and Youth Center proudly presented their Annual Black History Night. Participants celebrated and learned about the leaders that fought for their freedom and stood up for what they believed in. North Shore Park, Scott Rakow Youth Center and Flamingo Park after-school members presented ethnic and urban performances. A food tasting booth served Soul, Southern Style and Haitian delicacies free of charge to attendees.

**Spring Surf Camp for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder** – On March 14 - 18, 2011, the City of Miami Beach Parks & Recreation Department and University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM – NSU CARD) will be hosting its long awaited, annual spring break surfing camp for children with autism spectrum disorders at South Pointe Park. This unique and exciting camp will open its doors to 12 campers ranging from 8-12 years of age with high functioning autism, pervasive developmental disorder or Asperger syndrome. Please see a copy of the press release for this program attached.

**Please mark your calendar for these other upcoming happenings:**

**Movie in the Park**  
(Movie: TBA)

April 15, 2011 / 8:00 p.m.  
South Pointe Park

**Spring Eggstravaganza**  
(Spring Time Celebration)

April 23, 2011 / 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
North Shore Park & Youth Center

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673 -7730.

JMG/HMF/KS/JM/h





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## PRESS RELEASE

### **SURFING CAMP for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

**Miami Beach, FL** – On March 14 - 18, 2011 (Spring Break) the City of Miami Beach Parks & Recreation Department and University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM – NSU CARD) will be hosting its long awaited annual spring break surf camp for children with autism spectrum disorders.

This unique and exciting camp will open its doors to 12 campers ranging from 8-12 years of age with high functioning autism, pervasive developmental disorder or Asperger syndrome. The participants will be chosen after being screened by City of Miami Beach Parks & Recreation staff alongside UM-NSU CARD personnel. Participants can look forward to an educational and fun week as the Parks & Recreation Department and UM-NSU CARD present a unique curriculum that focuses on swimming skills, basic oceanography, meteorology, open water surfing and most importantly the children's abilities. The educational component of the camp will be held out of South Pointe Park and the actual surfing component will be held at the beach adjacent to the park. From the first day, at the meet and greet where campers, family and friends get to meet the highly trained staff, to the final day of surfing demonstration, sponsor's distribution of goody bags and the highly popular award ceremony, participants are sure to have an amazing experience as this camp offers a once in a life time opportunity for all involved.

Look for future events and other Miami Beach Parks and Recreation programming in your Recreation Review, call our offices at 305-673-7730 or visit our new and improved website at [www.miamibeachparks.com](http://www.miamibeachparks.com). For information on UM-NSU CARD call 1-800-AUTISM (ext. 1) or visit us online at: [www.umcard.org](http://www.umcard.org).

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*We are committed to providing excellent public service and safety to all who live, work and play in our vibrant, tropical, historic community.*